



M E D I A R E L E A S E
STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 19, 2008

CONTACT: TISHA CALABRESE-BENTON
(865) 594-5442

**MORRISON MEADOW AND MAY PRAIRIE STATE NATURAL AREAS WALKING TOUR
SCHEDULED FOR AUG. 23**

Nashville, Tenn. - The Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Natural Areas will host a guided walking tour at Morrison Meadow and May Prairie State Natural Areas on Aug. 23. Participants should meet at 8 a.m. in the Target parking lot off Bell Road near Hickory Hollow in Nashville, or participants with reservations may arrange with trip leaders to meet near one of the sites.

Natural Areas Program Botanist Todd Crabtree will lead the easy to moderate hike. Morrison Meadow in Warren County is renowned for its summer and fall flora, and makes for outstanding wildflower viewing. Natural areas staff will also be stopping at May Prairie State Natural Area in Coffee County, which features impressive open grassland and is one of Tennessee's most floristically diverse natural areas.

Participants should bring water and lunch, and they should wear hats and appropriate footwear and bring rain gear. They also should bring sunscreen and insect repellent. Reservations for the guided hike are required and can be made by emailing Todd Crabtree at Todd.Crabtree@state.tn.us or by calling (615) 532-0431.

The hike at Morrison Meadow and May Prairie is part of a series of monthly, guided field trips to Tennessee State Natural Areas offered by the department's Division of Natural Areas. Tennessee has 79 designated State Natural Areas throughout the state, covering approximately 110,000 acres of ecologically significant lands. More information about Tennessee's natural areas program, including a complete list of all natural areas and scheduled field trips, can be found at <http://www.tn.gov/environment/na/>.

###